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WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Regional Meeting for Africa
Tunis, 2-6 November 1992
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Resolution of the West African Advisory Meeting on Human Rights

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990, entitled "World Conference on Human Rights". In paragraph 10 of that resolution, the Assembly requested, among others, regional organizations concerned with human rights to undertake reviews and submit recommendations concerning the Conference and the preparations therefor through the Secretary-General.

2. The present document is submitted pursuant to that resolution. It contains, in annex, the resolution adopted at Lomé by the West-African Advisory Meeting on Human Rights. In operative paragraph 6, the African Group is requested to take that resolution into account during the Regional Meeting for Africa in Tunis.

GE.92-14303 (E)

Annex

GENERAL RESOLUTION OF THE WEST-AFRICAN ADVISORY MEETING ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Held in Lomé from 15 to 17 October 1992 at the initiative of the Government of the Togolese Republic with the support of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and in collaboration with the Pan-African Observatory of Democracy (OPAD), the West-African Advisory Meeting on Human Rights which gathered government experts, resource persons from member countries of ECOWAS as well as human rights non-governmental organizations in the subregion,

Reasserts its attachment to the principles of the 1789 Declaration of Human and Citizen's Rights, the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the additional Covenants of 1966, the regional charters, namely the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of 1981,

Aware of the increasingly massive and repeated human rights violations perpetrated in Africa,

Aware of the fact that the protection of such inalienable human rights demand the advent of a rule of law, of a full multiparty system and of an efficient democracy,

Aware that a democratic culture can only be acquired through teaching, training and research in the field of human rights,

Recommends to African States

1. To promote, encourage and support the public and private human rights institutions by granting them a status of protection likely to enable them to fully play their role;

2. To implement a programme of teaching, training, research and literacy campaigns in national languages in connection with human rights;

3. To ratify the international instruments related to human rights and insert them into their national legislations.

4. To develop a regional and subregional cooperation in the field of human rights through the medium of national institutions and by harmonizing laws and regulations;

5. To recognize in the national and international human rights institutions the automatic duty of interference in case of massive and blatant violations of human rights and create within the existing structures at subregional, regional, and international levels, mechanisms of guarantee and follow-up; and

6. To request the African group to take this resolution into account during the Regional Meeting for Africa organized by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and scheduled in Tunis from 2 to 6 November 1992.

Lomé, 17 October

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